

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1942.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

Statistics & Social Conditions in the Area.

Total area of Whaley Bridge Urban District (in acres)	-	3,487.
Estimated Population (mid 1942)	-	5,049.
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1942	-	1,644.
Rateable Value,	-	£30,548.
Sum represented by a penny rate.		£112.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for 1942.

		Total.	M.	F.
Live Births.	Legitimate.	64.	36.	28.
	Illegitimate.	15.	9.	6.
Still Births.		4.	1.	3.
Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population.		-	-	15.6.
" " " " " " " " (in England & Wales)		-	-	15.8.
Still Birth Rate per 1000 (total live & still) births.		-	-	40.8.
Death Rate per 1000 of estimated average population.		-	-	10.3.
Death Rate per 1000 " " " " (in England & Wales)		-	-	11.6.
Deaths from Puerperal Causes.		-	-	Nil.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.	M. F.			
	Legitimate.	1.	0.	
	Illegitimate.	-	-	
Death Rate - All infants per 1000 live births		-	-	12.6.
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births.		-	-	15.6.
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.		-	-	Nil.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	M. F. Total.			
" " Measles (all ages)	3. 3. 6.			
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	0. 0. 0.			
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0. 0. 0.			

The general health of the district was good throughout the year with no epidemic or excessive mortality.

Causes of death are classified as follows:-

	M.	F.	Total.
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	3.	7.	10.
Digestive Diseases.	1.	0.	1.
Diabetes.	1.	1.	2.
Heart Disease.	8.	5.	13.
Other Circulatory diseases.	1.	0.	1.
Bronchitis.	1.	0.	1.
Pneumonia (all forms).	1.	0.	1.
Other Respiratory Diseases.	2.	0.	2.
Acute & Chronic Nephritis.	1.	0.	1.
Congenital Debility, Prem. Birth, etc.	0.	1.	1.
Suicide.	2.	0.	2.
Tuberculosis.	3.	3.	6.
Cancer.	7.	3.	10.
Other Causes.			
Total (all causes)	32.	20.	52.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Systematic inspections of the district were periodically carried out and all essential services were satisfactorily maintained.

Water Supplies: The various service reservoirs supplying the district were all cleaned out during the year and the quality and quantity of water available to consumers was maintained at a satisfactory level. It was not found necessary to curtail the water supply at any period of the year.

During the year approximately 4 acres of land was purchased and fenced off at Foxholme Reservoir to eliminate the danger of pollution of the springs by cattle.

Sewerage: The sewage was satisfactorily treated by the Joint Sewerage Board and no complaints were received regarding the discharged effluent. Cleansing and rodding of sewers was carried out whenever necessary.

Refuse Collection & Disposal:

This work was satisfactorily carried out by the Council and the collection of salvage was enthusiastically maintained.

Factories Act.

No special measures had to be taken during the year and the general health of the workers remained good.

Infectious and Other Diseases.

No cases of Malaria or Dysentery were notified. The district was again generally free from influenza throughout the year.

Although the Council again advertised the free immunisation scheme operating in the district the response was not as gratifying as one would wish.

At the year end 647 children in this area had been immunised against Diphtheria since the scheme came into operation, representing 69.3% of the estimated child population. Of the 647 children immunised, 426 were between 5 and 15 years of age and 221 under 5 years of age. It is significant that since the Government immunisation scheme became operative not one child in this area has contracted diphtheria, but in order to render the district reasonably safe against this dreaded disease, at least 85% of the child population should be immunised. The publicity which has been given to the immunisation scheme deserves a far greater response from parents than it has recently received.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is issued gratuitously when necessary and is promptly used when necessary.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

Notifiable Disease.	Total all ages	Under 1	1 3	3 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 35	35 45	45 65	65 Over	Hosp. Deaths & Cases.
Smallpox.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	12.	-	1	-	4	6	1	-	-	-	11.	-
Diphtheria.	1.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1.	-
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid).	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	8.	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	1	1	1	-
Other dis. generally notifiable:-												
Erysipelas.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1.	1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Measles.	3.	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Dis. notifiable locally.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	25.	1.	2.	2.	5.	6.	2.	4.	1.	1.	1.	13.

Tuberculosis - New Cases & Mortality, 1942.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non -Resp.		Respiratory.		Non -Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35.	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 - 45.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65.	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-

I have the honour to be,
 Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,
 Your obedient Servant,
 F. G. ALLAN.

